Division: Soil & Water Conservation Commission Sponsor: Crabtree, Troy Description: Refund the Water Quality Program for Agriculture

1. Background:

The Water Quality Program for Agriculture (WQPA) is authorized in Section 22-2733, Idaho Code, and provided a grant program administered by the Soil & Water Conservation Commission. The funding for this program was removed in FY 2012 as part of the budget cuts resulting from the recession. Historically, WQPA provided financial assistance for agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs), non-point source water pollution concerns for Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), and watershed improvements through the 50 local Soil Conservation Districts. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NCRS) has pledged a dollar-for-dollar match to state funding for WQPA projects. Eligible projects include water conservation, soil conservation, small aging infrastructure replacement or improvement, and water quality and/or efficiency improvements.

2. Reopen FY 2022 Budget: Requires unanimous consent or 2/3 majority to reopen.

"I request unanimous consent to reopen the fiscal year 2022 budget for the Soil and Water Conservation Commission."

3. Motion:

"I move for fiscal year 2022 for the Soil and Water Conservation Commission \$10,000,000 onetime from the General Fund."

Fund	Туре	ОТ	FTP	PC	OE	СО	TB	Total
Supplemental Appropriation to the Soil & Water Conservation Commission								
10000	Gen	✓	0.00	0	0	0	10,000,000	10,000,000

4. Motion for Language:

"I move to add the following language to the bill:"

SECTION _: Of the moneys appropriated in Section _ of this act for trustee and benefit payments, \$10,000,000 shall be used for the Water Quality Program for Agriculture in accordance with Sections 22-2733 and 22-2734, Idaho Code, to provide cost-share financing for soil and water conservation projects, water delivery and drainage rehabilitation and improvement projects, implementation of Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs), and other projects to enhance and restore the soil and water resources of the state. The commission shall administer this funding through existing grant procedures and personnel.